



Hawaii County Economic
Opportunity Council

Drop Out Prevention Program

Final Report
2004-2005

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EDUCATION

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**HAWAII COUNTY ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL
DROP-OUT PREVENTION PROGRAM FINAL REPORT**

2004 – 2005

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HAWAII COUNTY ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL DROP-OUT PREVENTION PROGRAM FINAL REPORT

2004 – 2005

I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- A. Background: The Drop-Out Prevention Program is a State funded project operated with the permission of the Department of Education and the schools involved.

1974 - 1979 –Funded by ESAA

1981 – 1982 –Funded by ESAA

1983 – 2005 –Funded by State

- B. Purpose: To reduce the barriers of communications that exist between drop-out students, parents and school by facilitating a positive rapport among all parties concerned and mainstreaming the student back into the regular classroom.

C. Objectives:

1. Enable 95% of the seniors referred to graduate from school.
 2. Enable 40% of students referred will pass all courses necessary for promotion.
 3. 65% of the referred students will have an attendance of 65% or better.
 4. 70% of the students referred will finish the school year without any suspensions exceeding three (3) days.
 5. Facilitate positive change in attitude of 80% of participants toward self and others.
 6. 70% of program parents to improve their communication with their child, and children and adults of other ethnic groups.
- D. Target Schools: The project served five (5) high schools which included Hilo High, Konawaena High, Honokaa High, Laupahoehoe High, and Pahoa High.
- E. Target Groups: The Drop-Out Prevention Program's target group is school/Probation Office referred students who are referred for one or more of the following criteria:
1. Failure in two or more subjects.
 2. Accumulated ten or more unexcused absences.
 3. Referred by the probation officer and/or the school screening committee.
 4. Exhibits difficulty in dealing with problems arising out of student ethnicity or minority status.

5. Presents a situation where home to school dialogue is critical for student success or failure in school.

F. Activities:

1. Provide for individual and groups consultation sessions to resolve problems.
2. Receive and process referrals from probation officers and school screening committee.
3. Assist students in obtaining information relevant to his/her success in school and in meeting graduation requirements.
4. Act as liaison for students working with other private and public agencies.
5. Keep accurate account of all services provided and the degree of its effectiveness.
6. Provide after-school activities and maintain communication with parent and child.
7. Assist in organizing parent and student groups.
8. Plan and/or conduct mini-workshops and/or meetings for facilitators and parents.
9. Prepare quarterly and annual evaluation reports.
10. Conduct summer activities which includes the following:
 - a. Provide in-service training for facilitators.
 - b. Assist students in participating in productive summer activities, i.e., summer school for credit, seeking jobs, volunteer services, working on future school plans, etc.
 - c. Assist school with contacting students that are not registered for school in the Fall.
 - d. Make contact and conference with parent and child when appropriate.
 - e. Orient potential referrals (both parent and child) for the next school year regarding program services available.

Per the DOE contract, each Community Facilitator is responsible for a maximum of 26 clients during the school year. However, the Community Facilitators work with each student referred, including non-clients. This may involve assisting the various schools in contacting or locating students and families through providing outreach services. Our DOPP Program is unique and we are one of the only programs that have the ability to assist the school in locating students by visiting homes, meeting with parents off campus and attending court hearings with students.

II. EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

These statistics are based upon Drop-Out Prevention registered clients who ended the school year in the program and not all students that were serviced during the school year.

Clients who transferred to other schools or programs are not included in the statistics listed in DOE Objectives 1 – 6.

A. Objective 1:

95% of the seniors referred will graduate.

Number of 12 grade participants:

	12 th Grade Clients	Number Graduated	
Hilo High	1	1	100%
Konawaena High	4	3	75%
Honokaa High	4	4	100%
Laupahoehoe High	3	3	100%
Pahoa High	7	7	100%
Total	19	18	95%

Objective #1 was achieved. 95% or 18 of 19 senior clients received their high school diplomas.

One (1) senior from Konawaena High School did not graduate. During the end of this school year two (2) DOPP Facilitators resigned: Konawaena and Hilo High. We had made several job offers in Kona, but were unable to offer pay comparable to the visitor/hotel industry. The unemployment rate has fallen and there are many employment opportunities in Kona, and not enough people to fill positions. We will be hiring someone during the summer.

It was evident in both Hilo and Konawaena High School that there was an absence in a Facilitator. During the months of the absence, clients absences increased and the head counselor of Hilo High reported that behavior issues were present.

B. Objective 2:

40% of all students referred will pass all courses necessary for promotion.

	Number of Clients	Number of Clients Passing all Subjects	Maintained or Improved Grades	Number of Students Promoted
Hilo High	15	13	15	13
Konawaena High	27	19	20	22
Honokaa High	13	10	10	10
Laupahoehoe High	3	3	3	3
Pahoa High	30	12	11	15
Total	88	57	62	63

Objective #2 was achieved. A total of 57 students or 65% passed all subjects with no F's. 62 or 70% made improvements or maintained their grades. In addition, 63 or 72% of the clients graduated or were promoted to the next grade.

HCEOC's Facilitators kept in close contact with their clients and encouraged them to improve their grades. They made close contacts with their client's teachers, counselors, and when necessary, the administrators. Facilitators have access to report cards each quarter, which are kept in student files. Throughout the year, when necessary, grades are also monitored and recorded.

Next school year, the Community Facilitator will be able to establish relations with the students and ensure that absences, behavior and grades are improved or maintained.

C. Objective 3:

65% of students will have an attendance of 65% or better.

	Number of Clients	Improved Attendance	%
Hilo High	15	13	87%
Konawaena High	27	25	93%
Honokaa High	13	13	100%
Laupahoehoe High	3	3	100%
Pahoa High	30	11	37%
Total	88	65	74%

Objective #3 was achieved. 65 of 88 clients or 74% showed marked improvements in attendance and developed a more positive attitude towards their education.

Attendance was monitored and recorded on a daily basis by facilitators. They had daily access to school's Attendance Record Sheet. Close follow-up contacts were made with student, parents, and school personnel.

D. Objective 4:

70% of the students will finish the school year without any suspensions exceeding three (3) days.

	Number of Clients	Clients with Suspensions Exceeding Three Days
Hilo High	15	1
Konawaena High	27	1
Honokaa High	13	0
Laupahoehoe High	3	0
Pahoa High	30	5
Total	88	7

Objective #4 was achieved. 7 out of 88 registered clients or 8% received suspensions exceeding three days. 92% finished the school year without receiving suspensions exceeding three days.

DOPP facilitators are located on the school campus and are accessible to students during the school day. Students are welcomed to see facilitator's when experiencing frustration or anger. School counselors, teachers or administrators also bring DOPP students to see facilitator's if the need arises.

E. Objective 5:

80% of the students will show positive gains in attitudes toward self and others through observation checklists.

	Number of Clients	Number of Attitudinal Improvements
Hilo High	15	15
Konawaena High	27	26
Honokaa High	13	13
Laupahoehoe High	3	3
Pahoa High	30	17
Total	88	74

Objective #5 was achieved. 84% of clients showed improvement in attitudes towards school, themselves and others. Facilitators were successful in reducing the barriers of communication by developing a positive rapport among program students and parents.

Evaluations are based upon a test specifically developed for the local students by a former University of Hawaii professor. Consultations with teachers, parents and others are part of the evaluation process.

F. Objective 6:

70% of program parents to improve their communication with their child, and children and adults of other ethnic groups.

	Number of Clients	Number of Improved Communication
Hilo High	15	15
Konawaena High	27	27
Honokaa High	13	12
Laupahoehoe High	3	3
Pahoa High	30	17
Total	88	74

Objective #6 was achieved. The Facilitators were successful in opening up communication in 84% of the clients with their parents, peers, and others. Facilitators consulted with school staff and other interested parties in determining the client's communication development.

We continue to believe high success in this area was met because of their on-going relationship the facilitator has established with their clients and the school. Facilitators make contact in a non-threatening environment, making it comfortable for the student to open-up.

III. EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

The following activities were used to reach program objectives:

A. Provide for individual and group consultation sessions to resolve problems.

	Number of Home Based Visits
Hilo High	50
Konawaena High	130
Honokaa High	56
Laupahoehoe High	25
Pahoa High	17
Total	278

Community Facilitators conducted 278 home focused meetings with parents and students. Home visits alleviate the pressures of school and provide an environment that each party feels comfortable in discussing challenges and concerns. Facilitators find that parents are more relaxed and open to discussing problems and concerns.

Facilitators also use these meetings to observe the relationships that exist in the home to better focus their meetings with their students. Families also are more inclined to suggest activities that they would like to participate with their students or topics that could be discussed during parent activities, which are held monthly.

B. Receive and process referrals from probation offices and school screening committees.

1. "No-show" student referrals

	"No-show" Student Referrals
Hilo High	0
Konawaena High	2
Honokaa High	0
Laupahoehoe High	0
Pahoa High	2
Total	4

Facilitators play an important role by providing outreach to families that do not have telephones, or have not provided the school with a new address. Facilitators follow up with "no-show" students and their families and reports findings to the school administration.

2. Number of referred students

	School	Probation Office
Hilo High	195	0
Konawaena High	347	18
Honokaa High	40	0
Laupahoehoe High	5	0
Pahoa High	273	1
Total	860	19

860 referrals were received from DOE school personnel. Nineteen referrals were received directly from the probation office. The Facilitators follow up with each referred student. If the student is exhibiting a need in two (2) or more at-risk categories, the student is then categorized as a client. The facilitators also meet with non-clients to ensure the students do not become vulnerable to other at-risk categories. They then report findings to school counselors or probation officer and continues to monitor grades and attendance.

There is no limit to the amount of non-clients that are serviced. The Facilitators work with all referred students that may exhibit barriers that are prohibiting them from achieving successful outcomes in school.

- C. Assist students in obtaining information relevant to his/her success in school and in meeting graduation requirements.

1. Number of senior students placed in higher education institution/jobs.

	Number of Senior Clients	Placed in Jobs	Placed in Education
Hilo High	1	0	1
Konawaena High	4	2	2
Honokaa High	4	0	3
Laupahoehoe High	3	1	2
Pahoa High	7	4	2
Total	19	7	10
	100%	37%	53%

The facilitators assisted 17 out of 19 senior students in job placement or applying for higher education. 10 students applied and were accepted at a higher education institution.

	Number of Underclass Clients	Number of Summer Job Placements
Hilo High	14	2
Konawaena High	23	*
Honokaa High	9	2
Laupahoehoe High	0	-
Pahoa High	23	0
Total	69	4

* Konawaena was without a facilitator since March 2005. We will have a Facilitator on board before the beginning of the next school year.

2. Number of clients serviced

	Number of Clients Serviced	Transferred
Hilo High	18	3
Konawaena High	40	13
Honokaa High	19	6
Laupahoehoe High	3	0
Pahoa High	38	8
Total	118	30

A total of 118 students were registered and serviced during the course of the year. 88 students ended the school year with the program. There was 1 dropout. 30 students transferred schools or entered other programs.

3. Number of clients who dropped out

	Number of Clients (DOPP)	Number of Dropouts (DOPP)	School Students (DOE)	School Dropouts (DOE)
Hilo High	15	0	1,374	27
Konawaena High	27	1	903	21
Honokaa High	13	0	767	5
Laupahoehoe High	3	0	109	0
Pahoa High	30	0	814	23
Total	88	1	3,967	76

Pahoa High and Honokaa High School's statistics are based on grades 7th – 12th.

4. Number of clients who were promoted/ graduated

	Number of Clients	Number Graduated/Promoted
Hilo High	15	13
Konawaena High	27	22
Honokaa High	13	10
Lauapahoehoe High	3	3
Pahoa High	30	15
Total	88	53

53 of the clients graduated or were promoted to the next grade.

D. Act as liaison for students working with other private and public agencies.

The following is a list of various agencies that helped to achieve its program goals:

Alu Like Inc.

Bay Clinic

Big Island Substance Abuse (BISAC) Hilo and Kona

Department of Education

Hilo School for Adults

Kona School for Adults

Hilo High School Resource Team

Na Leo Na Opio

Lanakila Learning Center

Hawaii Job Skills

Hui Malama Ola Oiwī

Ke Ana La'a Hana

Ku Ha'aheo

Holomua E Ka Lanakila

Keaukaha Night Study Hall (Hilo High School)

Department of Health

Children's Mental Health

Department of Human Services

Department of Labor

Work Transition Program Hilo and Kona Office

Juvenile Aid Section Third Circuit Court

HCEOC's Employment Core Services (Pono Hana)

Hamakua Youth Center

Hamakua Health Center

Hawaii Job Crop Program

Hawaii National Guard "Youth Challenge"

Kamehameha School

Workforce Development (Employment Office)

Casey Family Center

Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center (QLCC)

Salvation Army Interim Home

Hilo Branch

Kona Branch

Hawaii Island Food Bank

US Army Recruiter

US Marine Corp

Youth Builders

Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Kona YMCA

Kona Family Court

D.A.R.E. Program of Kona

PA'I Kona (People Against Ice)

Neighborhood Place of Kona

Kona Roping Club

Hualoloa Art Center

Kona Village Resort

Daughters of Hawaii

State's Prosecutor's Office

1. Contacts

a. Number of Parent Contacts.

	Number of Parents	Number of Parent Contacts	Total Number of Contacts (student, parent, & other)
Hilo High	149	230	1067
Konawaena High	181	300	1101
Honokaa High	170	282	1276
Laupahoehoe High	32	63	233
Pahoa High	251	378	2039
Total	783	1253	5716

Community Facilitators contacts parents by telephone, made personal one-on one contacts, sent letters and used brochures as a means of introducing themselves and the program. Contacts were maintained during the entire program year.

b. Number of Student Contacts.

	Number of Students	Number of Student Contacts	Total Number of Contacts (student, parent, & other)
Hilo High	181	248	1067
Konawaena High	332	780	1101
Honokaa High	340	710	1276
Laupahoehoe High	64	119	233
Pahoa High	432	859	2039
Total	1349	2716	5716

Community Facilitators encouraged potential dropouts and their parents to communicate with each other and assisted with finding solutions to their challenges. The Facilitators simulate an open communication avenue that allows for the development of relationships and mutual trust between the Facilitator and the families being serviced. Families become very receptive to receiving services and become more aware of their community and resources available.

c. Other Contacts.

	Number of Others	Number of Other Contacts	Total Number of Contacts (student, parent, & other)
Hilo High	169	485	1067
Konawaena High	16	21	1101
Honokaa High	112	284	1276
Laupahoehoe High	26	51	233
Pahoa High	339	802	2039
Total	662	1643	5716

d. Method of Contacts

	Telephone	In-Person	Other	Total
Hilo High	331	646	42	1019
Konawaena High	206	889	6	1101
Honokaa High	288	976	12	1276
Laupahoehoe High	49	179	5	233
Pahoa High	477	1448	162	2087
Total	1351	4138	227	5716

In addition, close coordination among students, parents, school authorities and HCEOC was maintained. Community Facilitators made 5,716 contacts this school year.

- e. Keep accurate account of all services provided and the degree of the effectiveness.

Facilitators maintained individual file folders on each client and submitted data in monthly reports. The program manager submitted quarterly reports to the Department of Education. Facilitators also met on a regular basis with school personnel and receive sight visits once a month from the program manager. Records and reports are on file and accessible.

- f. Provide after-school activities and maintain communication with parent and child

1. Activities

	Number of Parent Activities	Number of Student Activities/Meetings	Other (School Meetings)
Hilo High	7	15	31
Konawaena High	7	8	44
Honokaa High	8	9	7
Laupahoehoe High	8	10	1
Pahoa High	3	7	25
Total	33	49	108

Facilitators continue to arrange educational, recreational, and provide social activities for program students and their parents. Activities are usually conducted during non-school hours and aims at objectives that assist students in developing positive attitudes toward school, increasing self-esteem and exploring options for their future.

Facilitators found appropriate resources in their communities that helped to eliminate and resolve problems that student and their parents were having. Close follow-up with family and positive communication flourished between the HCEOC Facilitator and family. Participation increased as relationships developed. Facilitators try to meet objectives

Here are some of the activities that were implemented by the facilitators:

- **Community Resources Rap Session Informational**
Objective: To inform students and parents about community resources
Outcome: Students and parents utilized community resources and had access to resources to assist with home.
- **Promoting respect in a diverse student body**
Objective: Eliminate and prevent racial harassment
Outcome: Students respect other cultures and no one should be discriminated or harassed.
- **Graduation Rap Session**
Objective: Encourage seniors to keep up the good work and encouraged continuing education and provided resources for job search.
Outcome: All 3 senior graduated.
- **Getting to know you Session**
Objective: Explain program, get students familiar with each other, rules and expectations.
Outcome: 15 students attended and were enthusiastic about program.
- **Perseverance session**
Objective: Showed movie Terminal and later discussed the main characters role and the ways in which character displayed perseverance.
Outcome: 14 students attended and discussion lead to interest and fun.
- **Shattered Dreams**
Objective: Session for Juniors and Seniors only. To deter underage drinking and driving, as well as, showing students how to make positive life choices.
Outcome: 2 clients qualified and participated in school activity. Clients and non-clients shared changes made after experiencing the event. Partnered with many other community agencies and businesses.
- **How to avoid harassment in school**
Objective: Eliminate and prevent racial harassment in our schools.
Outcome: Students became aware of harassment.

Here are some examples of positive outcomes that occurred with students and their parents:

Student 1: Objective with student: Student made a commitment to avoid fighting, trouble in school and improve behavior

Outcome: graduated and avoided fights and improved behavior. Will be attending Hawaii Community College.

Objective with parent: Parent agreed to meeting once a month to discuss students progress and participate in activities.

Outcome: Parent returned phone calls, kept all appointments, and assisted with improving behavior of student.

Student 2: Objective with student: Student was pregnant and agreed to improve attendance and work with teachers to make up assignments.

Outcome with student: Student improved attendance and graduated.

Objective with parent: Agreed to attend activities and participate in home visits.

Outcome with parent: Parent met all objectives and was proud of daughter graduating.

Student 3: Objective with student: Student recently became a foster child and agreed to improve attendance and behavior.

Outcome with student: Student improved attendance and.

Objective with parent: New foster parent agreed to get involved with parent activities and participate in home visits.

Outcome with parent: Parent was very involved and stayed interested and active with students progress.

Student 4: Objective with student: Improve attendance and behavior.

Outcome with student: Adjust class schedule to better adjust to interests. Student graduated and will attend auto mechanics apprenticeship in Colorado.

Objective with parent: Assist in establishing report with school staff and counselors.

Outcome with parent: Parent met with SPED caseworker, attended parent activities and kept all appointments.

Student 5: Objective with student: Improve grades (2 F's), make up lost credits and be reinstated as a senior, instead of Junior standing.

Outcome with student: Student improved grades and graduated with a 2.92 GPA and will go on to the Air National Guard.

Objective with parent: To find other resources of child care so student can focus on school and not siblings.

Outcome with parent: Found child care in area and transportation issues were resolved.

Student 6: Objective with student: To steer away from current crowd who were doing drugs, improve grades and get into sports.

Outcome with student: Student got promoted and will play football next school year.

Objective with parent: Parent will keep in contact.

Outcome with parent: Parent kept all appointments and stayed active with DOPP activities.

Student 7: Objective with student: Student was referred by Probation Office and had severe problems with attendance. Student willing to improve attendance and attitude.

Outcome with student: Improved attendance and released from Court.

Objective with parent: Would call me twice a week for update.

Outcome with parent: Parent called and got very active.

G. Assist in organizing parent and student groups

Number of registered students:

	Number of Registered Students
Hilo High	18
Konawaena High	40
Honokaa High	19
Laupahoehoe High	3
Pahoa High	38
Total	118

Students referred by the school more than once were registered as program clients. These clients, their parents and other interested parties, were invited to participate in DOPP activities.

H. Plan to conduct in-service trainings for facilitators.

7/01/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting – Review Forms and Process
7/15/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
8/12/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
9/16/05	DOPP School update
10/14/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
11/18/05	HCEOC's Anniversary Dinner
12/16/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
1/20/05	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
2/24/2005	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Training and Update
3/24/2005	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
4/22/2005	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
5/26/2005	DOPP Facilitator's Staff Meeting
6/1-6/5	End-of-the-Year Workshop. Review Final Report Forms, Objectives, Statistics, Strengths and Weaknesses of program, and plan summer activities and workshops.
6/20/05	Review Reports and Finalize Program

Staff Meetings will be used to provide trainings and workshops. Throughout the year we will tailor our training to our needs.

I. Prepare quarterly and annual evaluation reports.

Facilitators submitted monthly reports to HCEOC. Quarterly reports and a final report were submitted to the DOE at the end of the program year. Periodic phone calls and/or meetings with the DOE were made.

J. Conduct summer activities which include the following:

1. Provide service training.
2. Assist students in participating in productive summer activities, i.e. summer school, seeking jobs, volunteer services, working on future plans, etc.
3. Continue to make contact with parent and child that Facilitator worked with during school year. Preparing them for the coming year.
4. Assist schools with contacting students who have not registered for school in the Fall during the latter part of August.